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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 ICA-11 TRSE-00 NSC-05
DODE-00 (ISO) W
----------073867 092330Z /73
R 081315Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7583
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
USMISSION USNATO
CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
USNMR SHAPE
USDOCOSOUTH
CINCUSAFE
CINCUSNAVEUR
CINCUSAREUR

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MARR, NATO, GR
SUBJECT: COLLECTIVE SECURITY: GREECE TO PLAY IN FALL NATO EXERCISE

1. DEFENSE MINISTRY ANNOUNCED ON SEPTEMBER 5 THAT GREECE WOULD PARTICIPATE IN NATO'S MEDITERRANEAN EXERCISE "DISPLAY DETERMINATION - 78" LATER THIS MONTH. AMPHIBIOUS OPERATIONS BY GREEK, ITALIAN AND AMERICAN UNITED WERE FORECAST FOR NORTHERN GREECE AS PART OF THE SEPTEMBER 20 - OCTOBER 13 ACTIVITY. THIS WILL BE THE FIRST ALLIED LANDING IN NORTHERN GREECE SINCE THE WITHDRAWAL FROM NATO'S MILITARY STRUCTURE.

2. IN RESPONSE TO SOME CONFUSING REPORTS ON FALL EXERCISES, A CLARIFYING STATEMENT THE NEXT DAY ALSO POINTED OUT THAT GREEK EXERCISE PARTICIPATION WAS NOT UNPRECENDENTED, HAVING OCCURED "REPEATEDLY," AND WAS JUSTIFIED AS PROVIDING
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TRAINING TO GREEK FORCES AND HELPING TO MAINTAIN "CERTAIN LINKS" WITH THE ALLIANCE. ANY RELATION TO GREECE - NATO STATUS NEGOTIATIONS WEAS DENIED.

3. COMMENT: MEDIA COVERAGE HAS BEEN MARKEDLY RESTRAINED AND NEARLY FREE OF EDITORIALIZING. THIS IS THE MOST RELAXED WE HAVE SEEN BOTH THE GOG IN MAKING SUCH NATO

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EXERCISE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND THE GREEK PRESS IN COVERING
THE (AS LEAST SO FAR).
MCCLOSKEY

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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